GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3114
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2007
WETHER FORECAST FOR FARMERS
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plan to ensure that proper forecast of weather be available to the farmers in the country: and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with its features and the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPAL SIBAL)

(a) & (b) Yes Sir. Location specific weather forecast based Agro-meteorological Advisory Services (AAS) are being provided to farmers in the country in collaboration with Agricultural Universities/ICAR Centres in 107 Agro-climatic zones in the country.

The AAS Units are provided quantitative forecast of six weather parameters for next 4 days twice a week i.e. Tuesday and Friday along with forecast of cumulative weekly rainfall. The weather forecast includes information on rainfall, cloud cover, maximum temperature, minimum temperature, wind speed and direction. At the AAS Unit level, crop specific farmers' advisories are generated by a panel of experts from Agricultural Universities/ICAR Centres and disseminated through mass media and also through personal contacts with the farmers.

To further improve the accuracy and quality and outreach of the Agro-meteorological Advisory Services at the Agro-climatic Zone level, services rendered by National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF) and India Meteorological Department (IMD) are now being integrated. Under integrated AAS, agromet advisory extension and dissemination at the district level is envisaged.